



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - June 23, 2003**

- ***In the West***, hot, dry, breezy weather is maintaining heavy irrigation demands and fostering the spread of several large wildfires in the ***Four Corners States***. Meanwhile in the ***Northwest***, cooler weather and scattered showers are easing stress on rain-fed winter grains and spring-sown crops.
- ***On the Plains***, showers across the ***northern half of the region*** are boosting soil moisture reserves for summer crops and immature winter wheat. Meanwhile on the ***southern Plains***, hot, dry weather is promoting winter wheat harvesting but increasing stress on pastures and dryland summer crops.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, showers and thunderstorms across the ***upper Midwest*** are providing beneficial moisture for corn and soybeans. Elsewhere in the ***Corn Belt***, very warm, dry weather favors rapid development of summer crops and the maturation and initial harvesting of winter wheat.
- ***In the South***, hot, dry weather favors a recovery from wet conditions in areas from the ***Delta to the Atlantic Coast***. However, unfavorably dry conditions persist in the ***western Gulf Coast region***.

**Outlook:** A high-pressure system will provide warmer, drier weather to the ***eastern one-third of the U.S.***, although locally heavy rain will persist across ***southern Florida***. Meanwhile, a slow-moving cold front will trigger showers and thunderstorms across the ***norther and central Plains and upper Midwest***, while warm, humid conditions will help to spark scattered thundershowers across the ***southern Plains and western Gulf Coast region***. Farther west, below-normal temperatures will prevail from the ***Pacific Coast to the Rockies***, while scattered showers will persist in the ***Pacific Northwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for June 28 - July 2 calls for above-normal temperatures across ***the eastern half of the nation***, but cooler-than-normal weather is expected in the ***Pacific Northwest***. Wetter-than-normal conditions are forecast across the ***Southeast***, while below-normal precipitation is expected in the ***Southwest and Rio Grande Valley***.

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